

WEEKLY
COMIC
BOOK

The Detroit News

THE HOME NEWSPAPER

3 COMPLETE
STORIES

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SUNDAY, JULY 21, 1940

THE SPIRIT

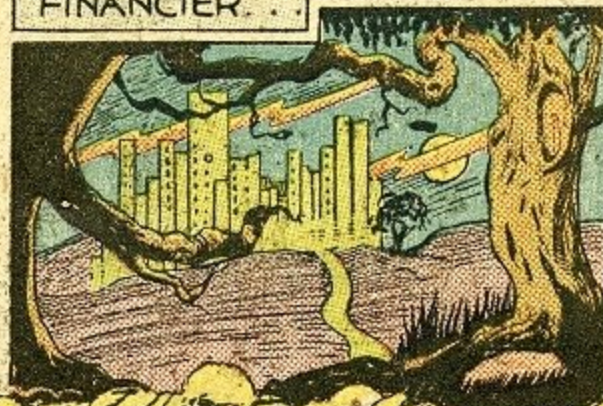
Will
Eisner



BELIEVED DEAD AND BURIED IN WILDWOOD CEMETERY, DENNY COLT, CRIMINOLOGIST, AWOKE FROM A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION. . . USING HIS GRAVE AS HIS HEAD-QUARTERS, HE CONTINUES HIS FIGHT AGAINST CRIME, AS *THE SPIRIT*.



NORTH OF WILDWOOD CEMETERY, LIES THE CITY. ON CLEAR NIGHTS ONE CAN SEE THE TALL BUILDINGS THAT RISE ABOVE THEIR NEIGHBORS. NEAR THE TOP OF THE TALLEST, A LIGHT OF ONE WINDOW CAN ALWAYS BE SEEN. IT IS THE APARTMENT OF ELDAS THAYER, THE OLD FINANCIER. . .



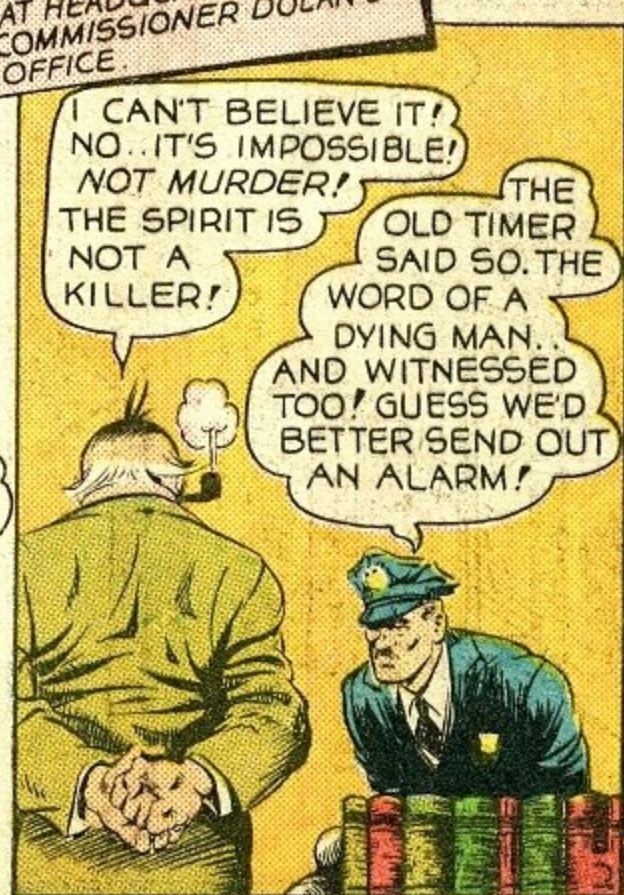
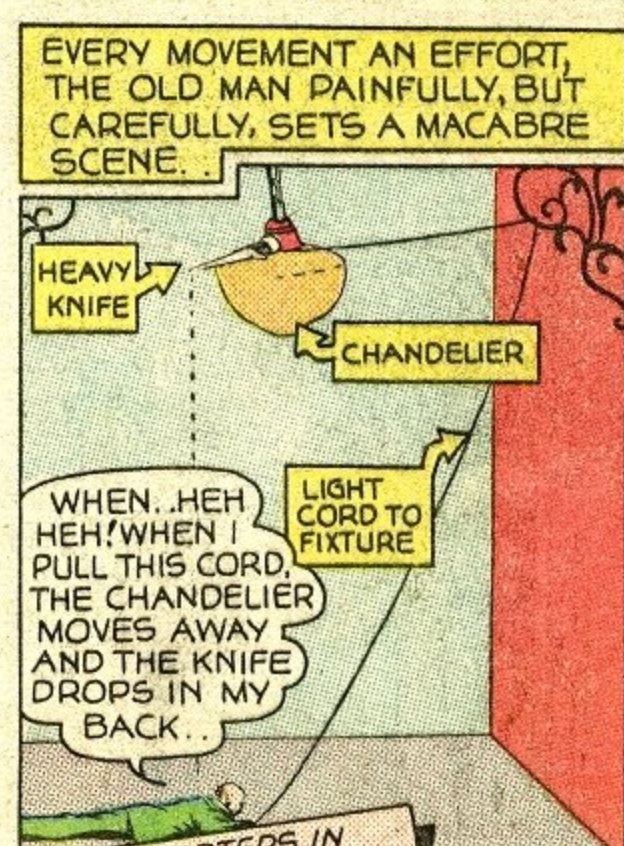
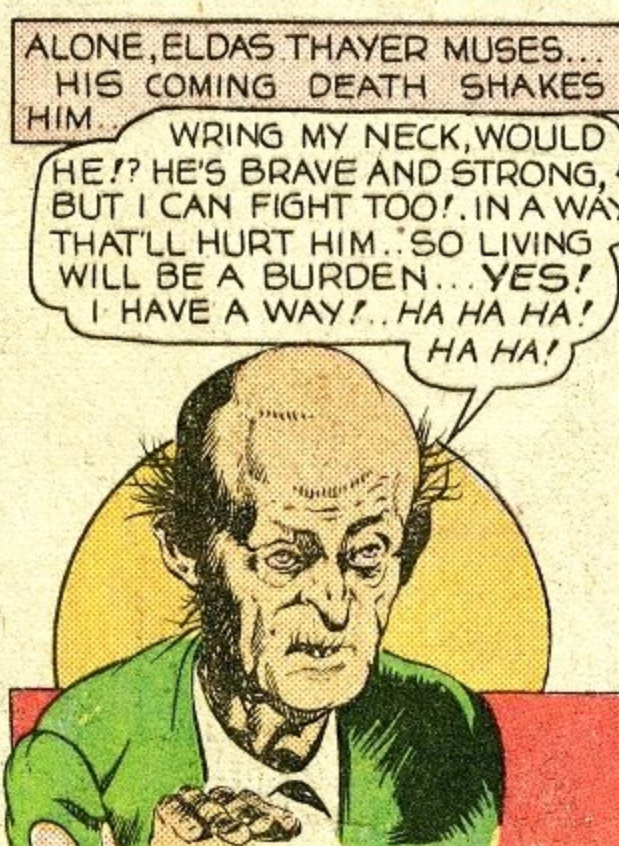
TONIGHT HE HAS A VISITOR, DR. CLAY, THE FAMOUS HEART SPECIALIST. . .

ELDAS THAYER, YOU ARE GOING TO DIE IN TWENTY FOUR HOURS!





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM



MEANWHILE, IN THE STREET BELOW

GUESS I'LL HAVE TO USE MY OWN MONEY, BUT I'LL GET DOLAN TO DONATE IT IN THAYER'S NAME. AS THE SPIRIT, I MIGHT HAVE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.



A FEW MINUTES LATER THE SPIRIT CLIMBS THROUGH DOLAN'S WINDOW.

HELLO, DOLAN! JUST BEEN TO VISIT THAYER..ER..HERE'S SOME MONEY HE..ER..GAVE ME TO DONATE TO HIS NIECE'S HOSPITAL BILL!

THE SPIRIT!



SPIRIT! WHY DID YOU DO IT? GOOD GOSH! YOU'RE NOT A KILLER!

DO WHAT? SAY, WHAT'S COME OVER YOU, DOLAN?



AT THAT MOMENT, THE DOOR FLIES OPEN.

THERE HE IS! ARREST HIM, COMMISSIONER!

MAYOR ALDRICH!!



I HEARD THE WHOLE STORY BEFORE I CAME IN.. HE'S GOT THE MONEY, COMMISSIONER. AND I HEARD HIM ADMIT IT CAME FROM THAYER. IT'S A CLEAR-CUT CASE!... SEEMS TO ME, DOLAN, THAT YOU'RE A FRIEND OF THIS MAN!

DID YOU, KID??? DENY IT AND I'LL BACK YOU UP!



FOR A MOMENT THE SPIRIT HESITATES. HE MUST DECIDE TO PROTECT HIS FRIEND OR SAVE HIMSELF.. AT LAST.

YES! I KILLED HIM!



BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME FIRST!



SHOOT HIM, DOLAN! SHOOT HIM! IT'S YOUR DUTY!



I CAN'T... I... C.. CAN'T K... KILL HIM!

?



THE FOLLOWING DAYS RING WITH BLARING HEADLINES.

The News Times
SHAKE-UP EXPECTED IN POLICE DEPARTMENT!
 COMMISSIONER DOLAN REFUSES TO COMMENT! SPIRIT STILL AT LARGE!
 Rumors are rife linking the Police Commissioner with the famous Robin Hood character "The Spirit"...

The police have been unable to locate the "Spirit". Believed to be murdered by Eidas.

MARY THAYER AT DEATH'S DOOR
 The doctors of the 10th Street Free Clinic have issued an appeal for a blood donor with type A-1 blood.

Niece of Eidas Thayer left penniless

I'VE GOT TO SAVE THAT GIRL'S LIFE! DRAGNET OR NO DRAGNET!

IN HIS UNDERGROUND LABORATORY, THE SPIRIT TESTS HIS OWN BLOOD.

IT'S TYPE A-1... NOW I KNOW SHE NEEDS ME!

AND INTO A CITY BRISTLING WITH POLICE SQUADS SEARCHING FOR HIM, THE SPIRIT GOES, TO SAVE A LIFE AT THE RISK OF HIS OWN.

42nd St. & BROADWAY
 AT 42ND St. & BROADWAY HE IS SIGHTED...
 AND THE CHASE IS ON...

THERE! THAT'S HIM!

GONE! NO, THIS WAY!

I WAS ALWAYS GOOD AT FOOTBALL!

SOON, BY A SERIES OF AMAZING FEATS, THE SPIRIT REACHES THE HOSPITAL BUILDING.





THE POLICE SEPARATE INTO
GROUPS AND SCOUR THE
BUILDINGS.



SHH... WE'LL SNEAK
UP ON HIM. THE
COMMISSIONER
SAID GET HIM
ALIVE!



SUDDENLY, AS HE EMERGES FROM
THE ALLEY, HE FINDS HIMSELF SURROUND-
ED... A BATTERY OF SPOTLIGHTS IS
TRAINED ON HIM...



MEANWHILE, WEAK FROM THE
LOSS OF BLOOD, THE SPIRIT
STAGGERS BLINDLY ON, DETER-
MINED NOT TO BE CAUGHT...



THE SPIRIT IS
CAPTURED AT
LAST!

SORRY, KID,
GOTTA TAKE
YOU IN!



THE NEXT DAY, IN THE JAIL.



THE COMMISSIONER
TO SEE YOU,
SPIRIT.



HOW ARE
YOU, KID?

FINE THANKS,
DOLAN. THANKS FOR
NOT LETTING THEM
REMOVE MY MASK
AND FIND OUT
WHO I REALLY
AM.

I'M AFRAID THAT
WON'T BE A SECRET
LONG..YOUR TRIAL
COMES UP SOON..
KID, TELL ME THE
TRUTH! IF YOU SAY
YOU DIDN'T KILL
THAYER, I'LL BACK
YOU UP! BY JOVE,
I'LL RESIGN!

THAT'S
WHAT I'M
AFRAID OF.
NO, DOLAN,
I-ER-I
DID IT!



OH, BEFORE
YOU GO, I'D
LIKE A DECK
OF CARDS
TO PLAY
WITH.

SURE, KID (GULP)
SO LONG. FROM
NOW ON, WE'VE
GOT TO BE
ENEMIES!



LATER

I'VE GOT TO ESCAPE
TONIGHT! NOW
LET'S SEE..THIS
PIPE LEG OF MY
BED IS FINE!

NOW FOR A
CANDLE. THE
CARDS HAVE
BEEN SOAKED
LONG ENOUGH.

CARDS ARE
POUNDED INTO
A PULPY MASS

AND THE
HOMEMADE
BOMB IS
HEATED BY
CANDLE.

STUFFED
TIGHTLY INTO
THE PIPE.

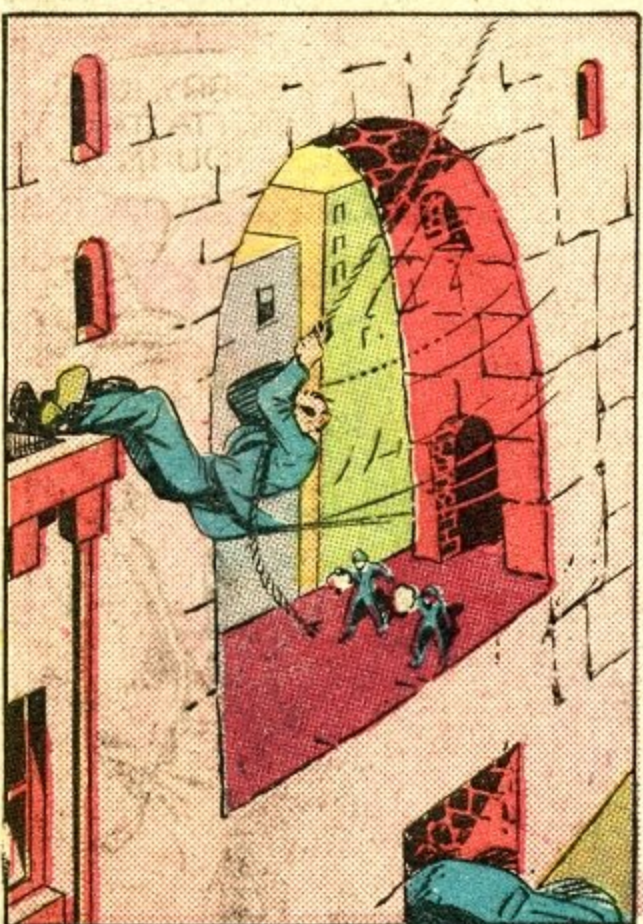


LATE THAT NIGHT..

AND THE SPIRIT LEAPS TO FREEDOM.



TSK TSK..MADE
A MESS OF
DOLAN'S NICE
JAIL!



SO LONG, DOLAN.
HATE TO HAVE YOU
THINK I'M A KILLER,
BUT I WOULDN'T
WANT YOU TO QUIT
YOUR JOB
BECAUSE OF
ME!



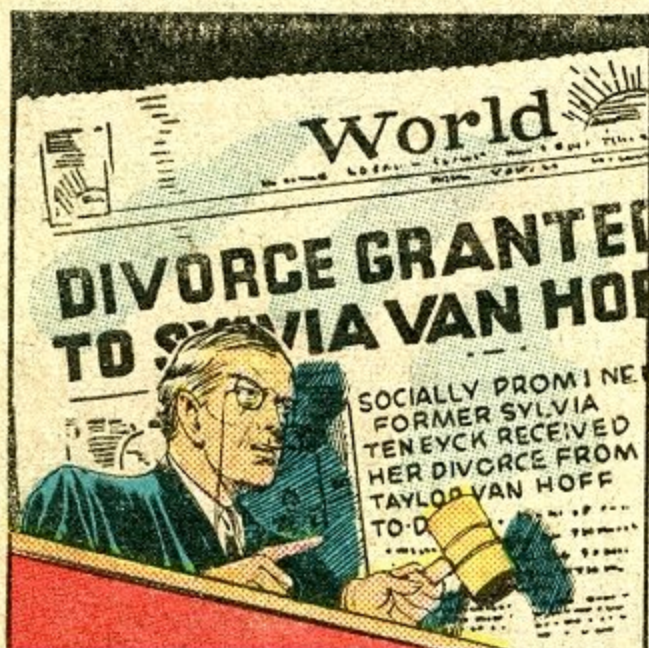
I'LL CONTINUE
TO FIGHT
CRIME, BUT
FROM NOW
ON WITHOUT
THE AID OF
THE POLICE!

AND ONCE
AGAIN THE
SETTING SUN
IS A BACKGROUND
FOR THE TALL FORM
OF THE **SPIRIT**..AS
HE HEADS DOWN
ADVENTURE'S TRAIL...

LADY LUCK

By FORD DAVIS

A DEBUTANTE CRIME BUSTER. BORED WITH SOCIAL LIFE, SHE BECOMES A MODERN LADY ROBIN HOOD.



MY OWN BABY! I SHALL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF. IT'S MY FAULT!

I'LL DO ANYTHING TO GET BUNNY BACK!



AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS

NOT A THING, FEENY... NOT THE SLIGHTEST HUNCH!

ANY NEWS ABOUT LITTLE BUNNY, CHIEF?



BUT SOMEONE ELSE HAS A HUNCH AND IS FOLLOWING IT THE MYSTERIOUS LADY LUCK

IF I REMEMBER RIGHT, IT'S JUST ABOUT HERE!



BUNNY! BUNNY DEAR! DON'T BE AFRAID. I'VE COME TO HELP YOU!

WHO WHO'S THERE?



I USED TO COME TO THIS SECRET CAVE WHEN I WAS A LITTLE GIRL. SO I GUESSED YOU'D BE HERE!

B...BUT, I WANT TO GO HOME!



LADY LUCK GIVES THE CHILD A PENCIL AND PAPER

...IF YOU AND MUMMY... GO HOME TOGETHER..I'LL GO HOME..

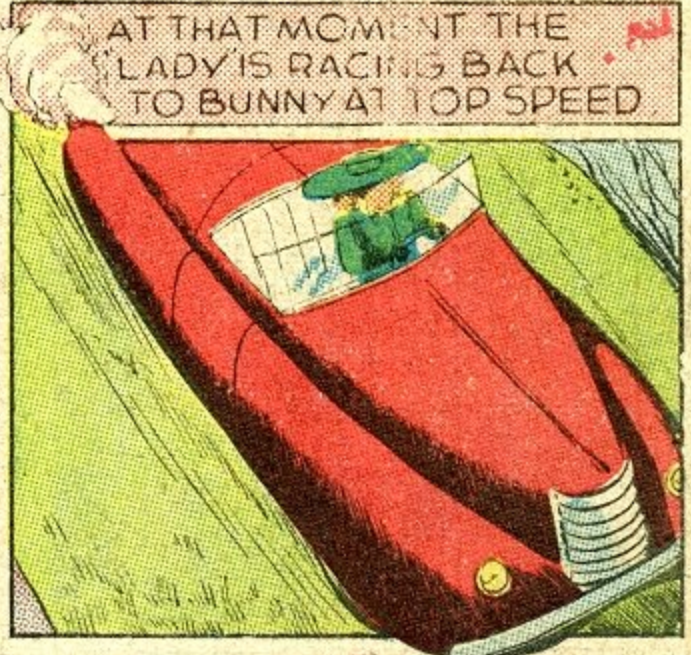
MEANWHILE, TWO HARRIED PARENTS VISIT HARDY MOORE



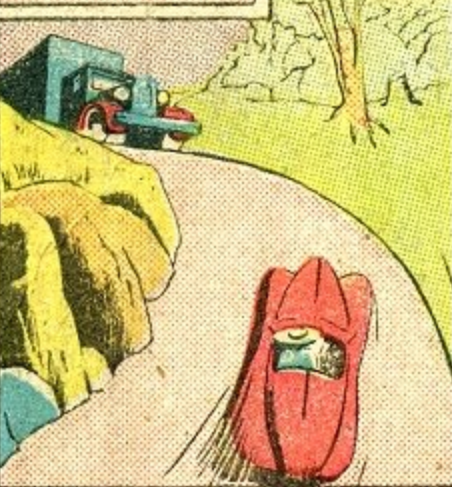
SUDDENLY OFFICER FEENY O'MYE BURSTS IN



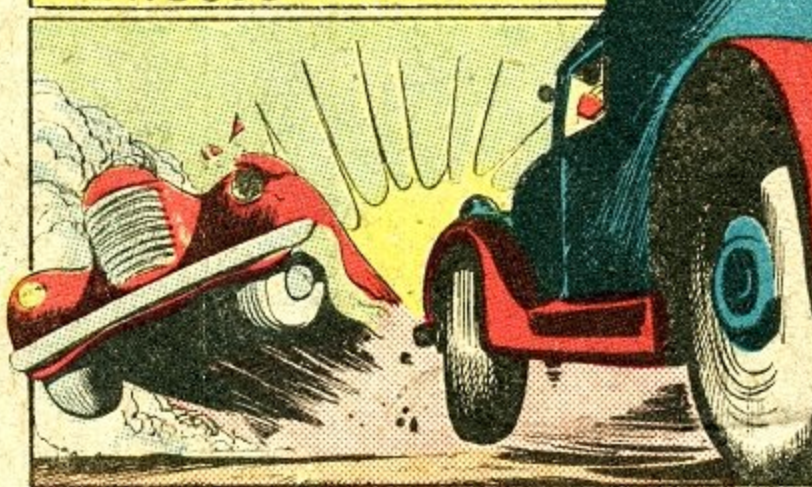
SO, SHE'S IN ON THIS, TOO!



SHE DOES NOT SEE THE LUMBERING TRUCK THAT SPEEDS AROUND THE BEND



THE SUDDEN CRASH, SCREAMING BRAKES, AND FRIGHTENED CRIES ECHO THROUGH THE WOODS AROUND



BUNNY, HEARING THE NOISE, COMES RUNNING OUT OF HER HIDEAWAY.



THE TRUCK DRIVERS SEE HER

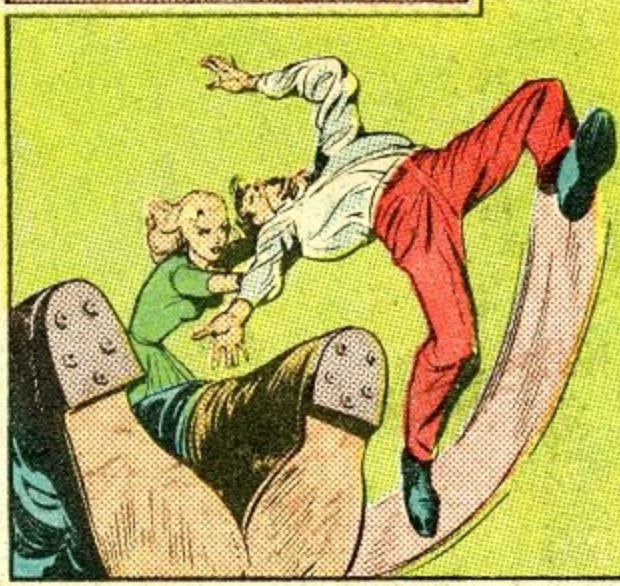




FRIGHTENED, LITTLE BUNNY CHASES OUT IN SEARCH FOR HELP



BUT THE LADY SEEMS TO BE HOLDING HER OWN



BUNNY REACHES THE STREET

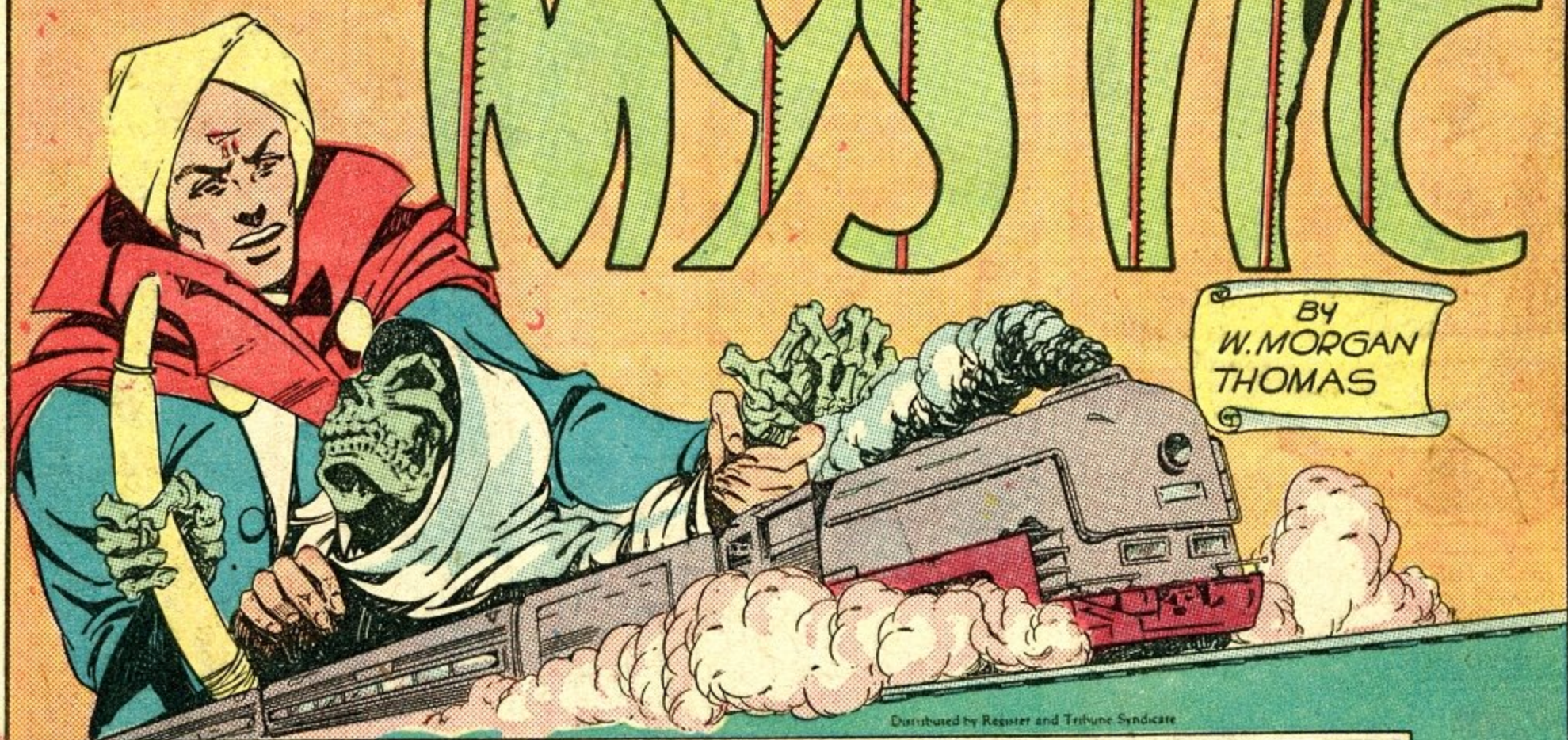


SOON THE FATHER, MOTHER AND CHILD ARE HAPPILY REUNITED



MR. MYSTIC

BY
W. MORGAN
THOMAS



Distributed by Register and Tribune Syndicate

A PROTEGE OF A MYSTERIOUS COUNCIL OF SEVEN LAMAS, MR. MYSTIC, CLEVER YOUNG AMERICAN DIPLOMAT, IS ENDOWED WITH LIMITLESS MAGICAL POWERS TO FIGHT THE FORCES OF EVIL AND CORRUPTION IN THE WORLD

HIDDEN DEEP IN THE NIGERIAN JUNGLES, ELENA, BEAUTIFUL AND NOTORIOUS REVOLUTIONIST, PLOTS WITH THE PREMIER OF CADIWA . . .



HOW MANY PLANES HAVE YOU, ELENA?

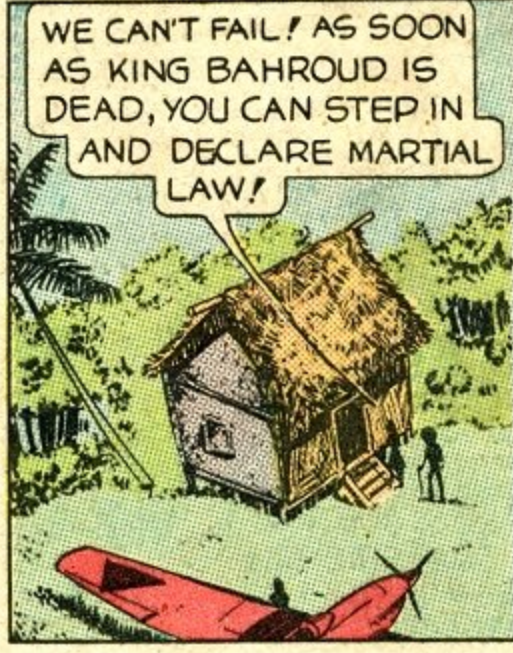
FOUR. BUT WE SHALL USE ONLY TWO TODAY!



THE CAIRO EXPRESS WILL PASS JUST NORTHEAST OF HERE IN AN HOUR. WHEN IT DOES, OUR BOMBERS WILL BE READY!



WE CAN'T FAIL! AS SOON AS KING BAHROUD IS DEAD, YOU CAN STEP IN AND DECLARE MARTIAL LAW!



SEE? OUR PLANES WILL BOMB THE TRAIN HERE. LISTEN! THEY'RE TAKING OFF!



YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE CAPITAL. I'LL SEE YOU IN A WEEK TO COLLECT MY REWARD!



MEANWHILE



THAT'S RIGHT, KING BAHROUD. THAT AMULET PROTECTS ITS WEARER FROM ALL HARM!



YOU MUST VALUE IT HIGHLY, MR. MYSTIC!

NO -- NOT SO VERY. YOU SEE, MY OWN GOOD LUCK CHARM IS JUST AS POWERFUL, SO I'M RETURNING THAT ONE TO THE SEVEN LAMAS' MONASTERY.



WHY DON'T YOU
STAY WITH ME A
FEW DAYS BEFORE
YOU LEAVE FOR CHINA,
MR. MYSTIC?

THANK YOU,
YOUR MAJESTY,
I'D BE GLAD TO.



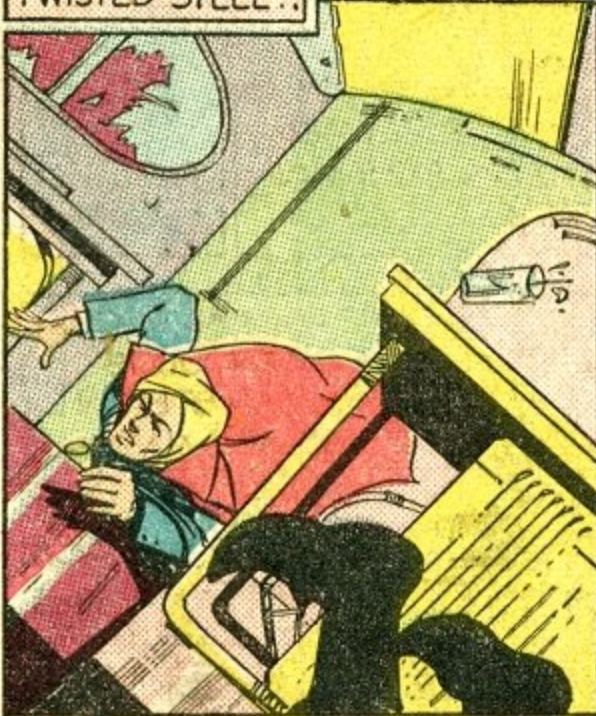
AS THE TRAIN SPEEDS
OVER THE ARKUT CANYON,
TWO DIVE BOMBERS ROAR
OUT OF THE SOUTH AND
CAREFULLY JOCKEY INTO
POSITION ABOVE IT. . . .



SUDDENLY,
ONE
DIVES.



INSIDE THE TRAIN, PANDEMONIUM
BREAKS LOOSE AS THE CARS AND
RAILS ARE BLOWN INTO A MASS OF
TWISTED STEEL. . .



ARE YOU ALL
RIGHT, KING
BAHROUD?

Y-YES.. IT'S A
GOOD THING I
HAD THIS
AMULET IN
MY HAND!



THERE'S THE
CAUSE OF
THIS! WAIT
HERE FOR ME!



JUST A MINUTE, MY
FRIEND, I WANT TO
ASK YOU A FEW
QUESTIONS!



WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?
WHO IS YOUR LEADER?

WE WERE TOLD TO KILL THE
KING, SO PREMIER GRAHVIN
CAN DECLARE MARTIAL LAW
AND TAKE OVER THE KINGDOM
AS DICTATOR... ELÉNA
IS OUR CHIEF!



ELÉNA AGAIN!
WILL I NEVER
BE RID OF
THAT WOMAN!
I MUST STOP
HER ONCE
AND FOR
ALL!



PROJECTING HIMSELF INTO THE FOURTH DIMENSION, MR. MYSTIC SOON ARRIVES AT ELENA'S HIDEOUT...



WE MEET AGAIN, ELENA! THIS TIME YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE!



YOUR PLAN TO ASSASSINATE THE KING FAILED, BUT YOU SHALL PAY FOR THE DEATH OF ALL THE OTHERS!



BAH! I AM NOT AFRAID OF YOUR POWERS! YOU'LL NEVER CATCH ME!

OH, YES I WILL!



AS MR. MYSTIC GRABS ELENA'S ARM, SHE CRASHES AGAINST A TABLE, KNOCKING OVER A LAMP.



JARRED BY THE CRASH, A HEAVY VASE FALLS FROM THE RAFTERS ON MR. MYSTIC'S HEAD.



HE'S KNOCKED OUT! OH! THE LAMP HAS SET THE PLACE AFIRE!



I'LL HAVE TO WARN THE PREMIER!



WHILE ELENA TAKES OFF IN ONE OF THE TWO REMAINING PLANES, THE GREEDY FLAMES CREEP CLOSER TO MR. MYSTIC'S FORM.



BACK IN THE CAPITAL, GRAHVIN ADDRESSES A HUGE CROWD, TELLING THEM OF THEIR KING'S UNFORTUNATE DEATH.

..NOW I AM YOUR LEADER!



YOU MUST REALIZE THAT I AM INFALLIBLE..MY WORD IS LAW! I WILL TOLERATE NO OPPOSITION, AND ANYONE FOOLISH ENOUGH TO DISOBEY ME WILL BE SHOT!



MEANWHILE, THE FLAMES QUICKLY ENVELOP THE SHACK AND EAT VICIOUSLY INTO THE DRY GRASS.



(COUGH) I-I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE FAST! (COUGH)



RAISING HIS ARMS, MR. MYSTIC COMMANDS A CLOUD OF VAPOR TO SURROUND HIM FROM HEAD TO FOOT.



SAFE WITHIN THE VAPOR, HE WALKS CALMLY THROUGH THE FLAMES.



AT LEAST THEY WERE NICE ENOUGH TO LEAVE ME A PLANE!



I'LL PICK UP THE KING AND CATCH ELENA AT THE CAPITAL!



A FEW MINUTES LATER, ELENA ARRIVES AT THE CAPITAL AND RUSHES INTO THE PREMIER'S OFFICE ...

QUICK, GRAHVIN! THERE'S NOT A SECOND TO LOSE! THE KING LIVES!



OUR ONLY CHANCE IS TO SEND OUT THE SOLDIERS AND BEAT THE PEOPLE INTO SUBMISSION BEFORE HE RETURNS!



WELL? WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR, GENERAL? CALL OUT YOUR TROOPS!

B-BUT, IF THE K-KING...YES, SIR! RIGHT AWAY!



BEWILDERED AS TO WHOM TO TAKE HIS ORDERS FROM, THE GENERAL HEADS FOR THE DOOR, ONLY TO STOP IN AMAZED AWE AS MR. MYSTIC AND HIS KING APPEAR.



